

Summary of Greensboro Sidewalk Ordinance, # 02-239

This ordinance amends the Greensboro Development Ordinance, which is Chapter 30 of the Greensboro Municipal Code.

Sections 1 through 5 clarify various existing definitions relevant to sidewalks and add new definitions needed for the draft sidewalk requirements.

Section 6 outlines the public purposes that these amendments are intended to serve, and relates them to the adopted Greensboro Walkability Policy.

Sections 7 and 8 amend the sidewalk installation requirements for subdivision and site plan development.

(A) (1) Sidewalks would be required:

- Along both sides of all major thoroughfare and minor thoroughfare public streets, unless exempt (the abutting side(s) for site plans involving no new street construction).
- Along one side of all collector and sub-collector public streets, unless both sides are warranted by proximity to a pedestrian destination or a pedestrian safety hazard, or unless exempt.
- Along one side of all local public streets, unless exempt.

(2) Sidewalks would not be required:

- Along all local and sub-collector residential streets in areas of predominantly single family residential development without sidewalks, if the proposed development would not create significant new pedestrian needs, and if there are no planned pedestrian facilities that would connect with the proposed development.
- Along cul-de-sac and permanent dead-end streets of 800 feet or less in length, which do not provide access to a pedestrian destination.
- Along private streets.
- Along NCDOT controlled access facilities.

(B) This subsection specifies that sidewalks are to be installed along the full length of a parcel's abutting side(s). This paragraph also requires administrative review to determine which side of a street on which to install required sidewalks.

(C) This subsection establishes the City of Greensboro Sidewalk Manual as the source for sidewalk construction standards.

Section 9 requires that if required sidewalk installation at the time of development would conflict with a roadway project planned or programmed to begin within four years, developers would be required to submit a fee, in lieu of the sidewalk installation. The funds received could be used only for the construction of sidewalks on, or abutting the site for which they were submitted.

Sections 10 and 11 state that the sidewalk requirements will be subject to the procedures for granting modifications of specific requirements through administrative review, and refers to the city sidewalk manual for criteria and allowable modifications.

Section 12 through 14 amend various sections of the development ordinance to maintain consistency with the new sidewalk requirements.

Sections 15 through 17 stipulate that if, compared with the previous sidewalk requirements, the new sidewalk requirements necessitate additional stormwater measures, the TRC may approve reductions to required public improvements to yield the same built-upon area as under the previous sidewalk requirements.

Section 18 repeals any existing city ordinances or regulations that conflict with the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 19 states that the ordinance becomes effective January 1, 2003, (30 days from December 3, 2002).